



## PART 1 – GENERAL INFORMATION

### NEPM Details

**Title:** National Environment Protection (Diesel Vehicle Emissions) Measure

**Made by Council:** 29 June 2001

**Commencement Date:** 18 July 2001 (advertised in *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette* No GN 28, 18 July, 2001 p 2014)

### NEPM Goal (or purpose)

The goal of the National Environment Protection (Diesel Vehicle Emissions) Measure is set out in clause 10 of the Measure as follows:

#### 10. National environment protection goal

The goal of this Measure is to reduce exhaust emissions from diesel vehicles, by facilitating compliance with in-service emissions standards for diesel vehicles.

### Desired Environmental Outcomes

The desired environmental outcome of the National Environment Protection (Diesel Vehicle Emissions) Measure is set out in clause 11 of the Measure as follows:

#### 11. Desired environmental outcome

The desired environmental outcome of this Measure is to reduce pollution from in-service diesel vehicles.

### Evaluation Criteria

The assessment of the effectiveness of the National Environment Protection (Diesel Vehicle Emissions) Measure is based on the following criteria:

### General Criteria (Specified in the NEPC Implementation Reporting Protocol)

- progress in implementing the NEPM
- compliance by parties bound by the NEPM with NEPM protocols and/or other NEPM reporting requirements
- progress toward achievement of the NEPM goal, the desired environmental outcomes and any NEPM standards
- issues arising that reflect on the efficiency and simplicity of NEPM administration.

### Specific Criteria

Reporting requirements set out in clause 15 (1) of the Measure are as follows:

It is intended that each participating jurisdiction submit a report to the Council on the following matters:

- (a) Assessment of the need to take action to manage emissions from the in-service diesel fleet, utilising the criteria specified in clause 13.

- (b) Description of actions taken.

A brief report of all programs implemented during the reporting year to manage emissions from in-service diesel vehicles, including any programs implemented that are not covered by the guidelines in Schedule A of this Measure.

This description should take account of:

- the scope of action required to achieve the Goal and the Desired Environmental Outcome specified in this Measure
- any action taken and progress made to reduce emissions from in-service diesel vehicles prior to the commencement of this Measure (relevant to the first year of reporting).

- (c) Assessment of the effectiveness of any actions taken.

Participating jurisdictions must assess their progress in reducing emissions from in-service diesel vehicles identified as significant contributors to air quality problems. This assessment should include:

- an estimation of any change in the proportion of diesel vehicles out of compliance with in-service emissions standards
- an estimation of the reduction in diesel vehicle emissions to ambient air.



## PART 2 – IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEPM AND ANY SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

### Legislative, Regulatory and Administrative Framework

*Table (15): Summary of Implementation Frameworks*

Jurisdiction	Summary of Implementation Frameworks
Commonwealth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New Vehicle Emission Standards and Fuel Quality Standards are specified in Commonwealth legislation.</li> </ul>
New South Wales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The key legislative instruments are the <i>Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</i>, and the <i>Protection of the Environment Operations (Clean Air) Regulation 2002</i>.</li> </ul>
Victoria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The key legislative instrument is the <i>Environment Protection (Vehicle Emissions) Regulations 1992</i> under the <i>Environment Protection Act 1970</i>. These Regulations are currently under review as they are due to lapse in February 2003.</li> </ul>
Queensland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The key legislative instrument is the <i>National Environment Protection Council (Queensland) Act 1994</i>.</li> </ul>
Western Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The key legislative instruments are the <i>National Environment Protection Council (Western Australia) Act 1996</i>, <i>Environmental Protection (Diesel and Petrol) Regulations 1999</i> and <i>Road Traffic (Vehicle Standards) Rules 2002</i>.</li> </ul>
South Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The key legislative instrument is the <i>Environment Protection Act 1993</i>.</li> <li>A South Australian Government Working Group was established to develop strategies.</li> </ul>
Tasmania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The key legislative instrument are the <i>State Policies and Projects Act 1993</i> and the <i>Vehicle and Traffic (Vehicle Standards) Regulations 2001</i>.</li> </ul>
Australian Capital Territory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The key legislative instrument is the <i>Road Transport Reform (Vehicle Standards) Regulations 1999</i>.</li> </ul>
Northern Territory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The key legislative instrument is the <i>Motor Vehicles Act</i>.</li> </ul>

### Council Assessment of Implementation Frameworks

Given that this is the first reporting year for the NEPM, most jurisdictions are still in the process of determining appropriate implementation frameworks. Most jurisdictions are assessing their data and circumstances and are yet to determine the level of management and enforcement required within their jurisdiction.

As a first step towards reducing petrol and diesel vehicle emissions, jurisdictions have developed smoky vehicle programs under the ten-second smoke rule as incorporated into the *Road Transport Reform (Vehicle Standards) Regulations 1999*.



## Implementation Activities

*Table (16): Summary of Jurisdictional Implementation Activities*

Jurisdiction	Summary of Implementation Activities
Commonwealth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment Australia has focused on funding programs for:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– the NSW Government to establish Australia's first In-service Vehicles Emissions Reduction Program</li> <li>– the Brisbane City Council to establish a mobile vehicle emissions testing facility for South East Queensland</li> <li>– the National Road Transport Commission to develop an industry education and training package.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Other relevant Environment Australia programs relate to the:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– implementation of the <i>Fuel Quality Standards Act 2000</i></li> <li>– new Australian Design Rules (ADRs) that set out Design Standards for Vehicle Safety and Emissions Standards</li> <li>– Alternative Fuels Conversion Program for the conversion of heavy commercial vehicles and buses or to purchase new vehicles operating on alternative fuels.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
New South Wales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New South Wales Government agencies have focused on:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– updating diesel vehicles profiles and determining fleet emission performance</li> <li>– the Roads and Traffic Authority's In-service Vehicles Emissions Testing Program, supported by the Commonwealth</li> <li>– estimating compliance with In-service Vehicles Emissions Standards for Nitrogen Dioxide</li> <li>– NSW EPA's Smoky Vehicle Enforcement Program</li> <li>– the Air Quality Management Plan 'Action for Air'</li> <li>– launching the Cleaner Vehicles and Clean Fleet Program.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Victoria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EPA Victoria has focused on:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 'hot-spot' roadside monitoring</li> <li>– smoky vehicle 'blitzes' and vehicle inspections</li> <li>– a public Reporting Smoky Vehicle Program and an enforcement program in association with VicRoads and Victoria Police</li> <li>– prosecuting companies with ongoing smoky vehicle problems</li> <li>– developing an 'eco-maintenance' training program for diesel mechanics in partnership with the NRTC and with Commonwealth funding</li> <li>– investigating the acquisition of a mobile dynamometer.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Queensland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Queensland Government agencies have focused on:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– implementing and assessing their Smoky Vehicle Program</li> <li>– evaluating the efficacy of adding emissions performance components to its existing heavy vehicle management systems.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



Jurisdiction	Summary of Implementation Activities
Western Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department of Environmental Protection has focused on:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– a desktop evaluation for evaluation of various emissions testing options</li> <li>– investigating, with the Commonwealth, the potential of conducting an emissions testing pilot project</li> <li>– a Smoky Vehicle Reporting Scheme.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
South Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Australian Government agencies have focused on:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– commissioning a desktop evaluation on emissions management</li> <li>– considering, with the Commonwealth, the establishment of vehicle emission testing and maintenance training programs</li> <li>– upgrading its smoky vehicle program</li> <li>– evaluating the use of biodiesel for buses</li> <li>– seeking funding to develop, with University of South Australia, an engine control module for existing vehicles.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Tasmania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tasmanian Government agencies have focused on:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– a Smoky Vehicle Program</li> <li>– conducting vehicle tests/inspections for excessive exhaust smoke.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Australian Capital Territory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment ACT has focused on:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– a Smoky Vehicle Program</li> <li>– planning the replacement of diesel buses with compressed natural gas-powered vehicles.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Northern Territory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department of Environment, Planning and Infrastructure has focused on scoping a Smoky Vehicle Program.</li> </ul>

### Council Evaluation and Assessment of Jurisdictional Implementation Activities

In its first year, most jurisdictions implemented the Diesel NEPM through Smoky Vehicle Programs. These programs involved public reporting, with some jurisdictions extending the scope of their programs to include other enforcement agencies such as Road Traffic Authorities and local police.

All jurisdictions have sought the cooperation of the road freight and transport sectors to establish programs for emissions testing, audited maintenance and clean fleets.

A number of jurisdictions have revised their air emissions inventories to understand and manage diesel emissions better.

### PART 3 – ASSESSMENT OF NEPM EFFECTIVENESS

At this early stage in the implementation of the NEPM, it is difficult to assess its effectiveness. The associated In-service Vehicles Emissions Standards developed by the National Road Transport Commission have not yet influenced diesel vehicle emission reduction programs.

Early work in identifying opportunities for vehicle testing and audited maintenance programs have identified issues affecting road freight and transport operators and related Government agencies. For example, in Victoria, the issue of private versus government-owned bus fleets has been identified as a potential complication in setting up partnerships and pilot programs.



## **PART 4 – REPORTING REQUIRED BY THE NEPM**

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Reporting requirements are set out under Specific Criteria in Part 1 of this report. Such information is contained in Part 2 of this report.

## **PART 5 – REPORTS ON IMPLEMENTATION BY JURISDICTIONS**

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The individual jurisdictional reports are attached as Annexes to Appendix 6 as follows:

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Annex 2: New South Wales	page 244
Annex 3: Victoria	page 249
Annex 4: Queensland	page 251
Annex 5: Western Australia	page 253
Annex 6: South Australia	page 255
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